

Lewin

Prof. J. Lederberg
chairman

November 27, 1957

Professor Carl H. Hubbs
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
La Jolla, California

Dear Professor Hubbs:

I hope you will not be inconvenienced by my delay in replying to your letter of November 4. I was out of the country: in fact, just a week ago I was in Milan and was talking to Professor Buzzati-Traverso about Lewin.

You must, of course, know him as intimately as I do, especially after his having been in residence at La Jolla for some time.

My own impression is that you could hardly find anyone better suited for your position. Lewin has a quite extraordinary zest for research and breadth of interests, and these are happily centered very close to what you are looking for. His training and talents are more in the direction of physiology, nutrition, genetics, taxonomy and ecology than strict biochemistry, but he learns what he has to for the last as well. You will have his published record to indicate the range of his accomplishments: I need only comment that all of this work is both sound and significant.

You should not overlook the assets represented by Mrs. Lewin. From my own experience and that of others, I recognize that there may be administrative problems in accomodating the talented working wives of staff: in this instance, any such problems as may be entailed by formal regulations would be a small price.

I had the pleasure of staying with Lewin for a few weeks last summer. He seems to be comfortably set up at Woods Hole, but for the sake of his own research and academic career I hope you will find it advantageous and feasible to pry him loose.

It is difficult for me to think of anyone else who would meet your requirements nearly so well. If you contemplated a more senior appointment, you might think of Seymour Hutner, though he might be somewhat more rigid in the direction of his research, and someone of an 'odd fellow'.

I would not hesitate in recommending Lewin for an appointment corresponding to an associate professorship in the University of California. I would be happy enough to have him as an immediate colleague here or anywhere.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg